



LENOX

Berkshire County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Lenox is a small residential community adjacent to the City of Pittsfield in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts. As the summer location for the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, together with Shakespeare and Company at Edith Wharton's grand estate, the Mount, and several resorts/spas, tourism plays an important economic role in supporting a modest commercial base. Lenox is also popular for outdoor recreational activities, including skiing, fishing and hiking, which attracts visitors year-round, adding economic stability. Thousands also visit to savor the excellent restaurant fare and shop in the fashionable shops and galleries. In September, the annual Tub Parade closes the summer season and brings on the wonderful colors of the spectacular fall foliage. In January, 1993, the town was successful in winning a national competition to attract the National Music Center to the 63 acre former Bible Speaks property. The Center will be a multi-function facility which will include a retirement community for professionals from the music, radio and recording industries, a library of American music, a performance center, and an interactive hands-on museum devoted to all forms of American music. There will also be scholarships, grants, and mentor programs. The National Music Foundation estimates that the Music Center will create 115 direct new jobs, attract 200-300,000 visitors annually, and bring \$17 million into the local economy.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Western Massachusetts, bordered by Pittsfield on the north, Washington on the east, Lee on the southeast and south, Stockbridge on the southwest, and Richmond on the west. Lenox is about 49 miles west of Springfield, 137 miles west of Boston, and 141 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 21.49 sq. miles

Land Area: 21.22 sq. miles

Population: 5,069

Density: 239 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Great Barrington Station)

Normal temperature in January.....20.1°F

Normal temperature in July.....68.1°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Stockbridge, Pittsfield West, Pittsfield East, East Lee

Regional Planning Agency

Berkshire County

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Pittsfield



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 637-5506

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Manager

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1767

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	3,145		
Democrats	1,221	38.8	%
Republicans	551	17.5	%
Other parties	3	0.1	%
Unenrolled Voters	1,370	43.6	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Lenox town, Berkshire County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	5,077	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	5,077	100.0
Male.....	2,322	45.7	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	97	1.9
Female.....	2,755	54.3	Mexican.....	13	0.3
Under 5 years.....	176	3.5	Puerto Rican.....	10	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	281	5.5	Cuban.....	4	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	375	7.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	70	1.4
15 to 19 years.....	306	6.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	4,980	98.1
20 to 24 years.....	178	3.5	White alone.....	4,822	95.0
25 to 34 years.....	426	8.4	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	733	14.4	Total population.....	5,077	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	804	15.8	In households.....	4,803	94.6
55 to 59 years.....	310	6.1	Householder.....	2,212	43.6
60 to 64 years.....	252	5.0	Spouse.....	1,100	21.7
65 to 74 years.....	504	9.9	Child.....	1,172	23.1
75 to 84 years.....	452	8.9	Own child under 18 years.....	883	17.4
85 years and over.....	281	5.5	Other relatives.....	103	2.0
Median age (years).....	45.9	(X)	Under 18 years.....	24	0.5
18 years and over.....	4,019	79.2	Nonrelatives.....	216	4.3
Male.....	1,780	35.1	Unmarried partner.....	74	1.5
Female.....	2,239	44.1	In group quarters.....	274	5.4
21 years and over.....	3,900	76.8	Institutionalized population.....	183	3.6
62 years and over.....	1,388	27.3	Noninstitutionalized population.....	91	1.8
65 years and over.....	1,237	24.4	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	465	9.2	Total households.....	2,212	100.0
Female.....	772	15.2	Family households (families).....	1,292	58.4
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	499	22.6
One race.....	5,048	99.4	Married-couple family.....	1,100	49.7
White.....	4,903	96.6	With own children under 18 years.....	397	17.9
Black or African American.....	66	1.3	Female householder, no husband present.....	150	6.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	4	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	83	3.8
Asian.....	52	1.0	Nonfamily households.....	920	41.6
Asian Indian.....	13	0.3	Householder living alone.....	802	36.3
Chinese.....	16	0.3	Householder 65 years and over.....	461	20.8
Filipino.....	8	0.2	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	523	23.6
Japanese.....	3	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	871	39.4
Korean.....	6	0.1	Average household size.....	2.17	(X)
Vietnamese.....	2	-	Average family size.....	2.84	(X)
Other Asian ¹	4	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	2	-	Total housing units.....	2,713	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	2	-	Occupied housing units.....	2,212	81.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	501	18.5
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	359	13.2
Some other race.....	21	0.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.3	(X)
Two or more races.....	29	0.6	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	7.1	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	2,212	100.0
White.....	4,929	97.1	Owner-occupied housing units.....	1,491	67.4
Black or African American.....	76	1.5	Renter-occupied housing units.....	721	32.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	13	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.42	(X)
Asian.....	61	1.2	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.67	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	4	0.1			
Some other race.....	30	0.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	122
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	0
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Lenox is situated in Berkshire County, a region of hills and low mountains that widen to create the Berkshire Valley in the south. The major cities and towns are linked together by U.S. Route 7. North Adams and Pittsfield are major points of entry for rail freight into Massachusetts, and the region has several commercial airports.

Major Highways

Principal highways are U.S. Route 7, which runs N-S through the Berkshires; U.S. Route 20, which runs E-W across the state, and State Route 183.

Rail

Freight service is locally available from the Housatonic Railroad. Contact number: (203) 824-0850

Bus

Lenox is a member of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA), which provides fixed service to Pittsfield, Lee, Stockbridge, and Great Barrington. User side paratransit services are available for the elderly and disabled. Bonanza Bus Lines provides service between Albany, NY, and Providence, RI and offers connections to Fall River, New Bedford and Cape Cod.

Other

The Pittsfield Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located in neighboring Pittsfield, has 2 asphalt runways 3,496' and 5,000' long. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision. Scheduled airline service is available in Albany, New York, and at Bradley Field in Connecticut (both approx. an hour from Pittsfield).



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Pleasant Valley Trailside Museum

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

(413) 637-0320

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Edgecombe Nursing Home

Nursing Care Center @ Kimball Farm

Valley View Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.